

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q85660

Heiji WATANABE, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/521,311

Group Art Unit: 2815

Confirmation No.: 1690

Examiner: WARREN, MATTHEW E

Filed: January 14, 2005

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, AND MANUFACTURING METHOD AND  
MANUFACTURING APPARATUS OF THE SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open Publication No. 2001-332547, published November 30, 2001, previously cited on a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), filed January 14, 2005.
2. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open Publication No. 2002-184773, published June 28, 2002.
3. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0023120 A1, published September 20, 2001, previously cited on a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), filed January 14, 2005.

4. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open Publication No. 62-118559, published May 29, 1987, previously cited on a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), filed January 14, 2005.

5. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open Publication No. 58-93331, published June 3, 1983, previously cited on a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), filed January 14, 2005.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for those references indicated as previously submitted. A copy of the corresponding Chinese Office Action, dated July 6, 2007, along with a Japanese translation, from which an English translation was derived, of the pertinent portions thereof which discusses the relevance of the listed references, is attached.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicants are filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Howard L. Bernstein/

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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Howard L. Bernstein  
Registration No. 25,665

Date: October 4, 2007

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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

Except as otherwise noted in the Information Disclosure Statement for items cited in an earlier Information Disclosure Statement, that the item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

/Howard L. Bernstein/

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